

The **Parks and Recreation Board** met Monday, June 17, 2013, 4:30pm, at the Parks Office (Kalberer Rd). Present at said meeting were Richard Shockley Karen Springer, John MacDonald, Patrick Flannelly, Aimee Jacobsen and Attorney, Andy Gutwein. Joe Payne, Pennie Ainsworth, Lee Booth, Chris Foley, Brenda Lorenz, Dan Dunten and Cheryl Kolb represented the department. Also present was Council President Ann Hunt. Absent from the meeting were Council members Gerald Thomas and Gerry Keen.

Richard convened the Board at 4:32pm.

The first item of the agenda was the approval of the minutes from the April 15, 2013 meeting. Karen motioned to approve the minutes. John seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

**Superintendent** – Joe reported on the following:

- Noted the Council Report was included in the mailing
- Mentioned some projects were finishing up at the new office.

**Assistant Superintendent** – Pennie reported on the following:

- Playground surfacing material has been installed at Peck-Trachtman Park and Paula R. Woods Park and the Morton Community Center. Surfacing material will be installed at University Farm and Lincoln Parks tomorrow. Lommel Park will be the only playground left to do.
- The ADA Committee, which I am chair of, met last Thursday. It requires quite a bit of time to do the ADA Coordinators job, and is almost a full time job itself. I will be going to an ADA Coordinators workshop on July 24 in Indianapolis that is being hosted by the Governor's Council for People with Disabilities.
- I passed out a pool report comparing our first 21 days of opening with the previous two years. We are down in revenue by \$8,870 from last year and attendance is down by 3,689 from last year. I believe this is due to the cool weather we have been having.

**Parks** – Lee reported on the following:

- Trail and Playground Inspections are available
- Finally catching up on the mowing
- Office parking lot and some of the trail in Cumberland Park have been sealed and re-lined.
- Busy putting up trail and traffic/parking signs in quite a few parks
- Did some access work at the boathouse
- Quite a bit of time repairing fountains, grills, light fixtures, etc. throughout all parks
- Catching up on some maintenance issues at Morton

**Recreation Report** – Chris reported on the following:

- Four summer camps were completed. Varsity coaches offer the summer sport camps at the West Lafayette School Corp. facilities.
- Seventy girls participated in Coach Jane Schott's girls' basketball camp. Eighty-eight boys registered for Coach Dave Wood's basketball weeklong camp. Both weeklong basketball camps were offered June 4-8. Forty-two girls & boys registered for Coach Aaron Blessing's soccer camp. Fifty-four girls enrolled in Coach Chad Marshall's

volleyball camp. Thanks to West Lafayette Athletic Director, Brock Touloukian, for working with the coaches to get the camps scheduled around gym maintenance.

- The tennis program is underway. The tennis coordinator is Tim Wright, the West Lafayette Varsity Tennis coach. Tennis lessons are offered at both the West Lafayette Varsity Courts at Cumberland School and the Happy Hollow Courts.

- The Municipal Pool opened on May 24 for the season. Opening day is the Annual Splash Bash with a special \$1.00 admission. The weather was great – 62 degrees, with 15 swimmers participating in the first day event. Last year, the temperature was 91degrees with 152 swimmers.

- The swim lesson program began on June 3. Four, two-week sessions, are offered at the Municipal Pool. Today was the start for the second session of Swim lessons. The swim lesson program is a very popular program. All registrations for lessons are now done at the pool.

- Diving lessons are also offered at the Municipal Pool. The Diving program also offers four, two-week sessions.

- The two Playground programs at Cumberland School and the Burtfield gym have filled for both sessions. Both have waiting lists. The School maintenance staff has been very helpful allowing the program in the school facilities.

- I participated in the West Lafayette School Corporation's facilities planning committee. The committee toured the facilities, discussed concerns and provided a general outline for some suggestions.

### **Morton Center –**

n/a

### **Stewardship Manager –** Dan reported on the following:

- **New Savanna Trail** – This is ¼ mile long and winds through the savanna at the Celery Bog Nature Area. A savanna is the natural area between a woods and a prairie that includes a lot of grasses and wild flowers, along with oak trees scattered around. The path will remain a grass path that will be mowed periodically.

- **Eagle Scout Projects** – Four projects were planned for this year at Celery Bog Nature Area, with one being completed last weekend by Sam Oates. This included building and installing four benches along the new savanna trail. They all meet ADA standards. He also installed 45 feet of 6" PVC pipe to route water under a section of the trail that is normally wet.

- **Rain Garden Map** – I had a Purdue student re-do the identification map for the Rain Garden that is out front of the Nature Center. This will help the visitors identify the specific plants growing there.

### **Old Business**

N/A

### **New Business**

#### **Consideration of Special Request**

Mark Acher, the sole practitioner and owner of running and coaching company, Performance Running LLC, presented a request, which outlines use of the parking area near Happy Hollow Park East Shelter. Along with use of the parking area, he plans to

incorporate the paved trails and grassy areas for a running/fitness camp over a set period of days in one-hour time increments on Tuesdays and then alternating Thursday afternoons from 6-7pm for student athletes and their parents, with a cap of fifty participants. Approximately 25-30 participants are expected to attend. Mark also noted his company is a for-profit company and he feels it is appropriate for his company to donate to the Parks Department based on profits seen for this activity. Mark is looking to charge \$10 for an individual student across the course of 10 appointments, or \$20 for the entire family. He is looking at revenue of \$500 - \$1,000, and he plans to donate 10% of his profits to the Parks Department. Discussion followed. Pat motioned to approve the request as presented. Karen seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

**Consideration of Special Request**

Kathy Murray with the Purdue Extension Office, also affiliated with the Coalition for Living Well After 50, presented a request regarding an upcoming planned event. She provided some background information pertaining to the Coalition sponsoring an annual walk each year in October at the County Fairgrounds and the Purdue Extension sponsors an event each year called Just Walk Indiana, a virtual walk event that has taken place the last 4 years. Kathy provided some background information. This year's theme will be "Walk Indiana Trails". Kathy is requesting the fee be waived for the use of the East shelter at Happy Hollow Park for the kickoff event on July 28 at 2:00pm.

Aimee motioned to approve the request as presented. Karen seconded the motion, and the motion carried. Discussion followed.

**West Lafayette School Board – Karen reported the following:**

- A 35 member community-based Facilities Strategic Planning Committee met last Wednesday & Thursday to analyze the WLCSC facilities and provide input on a 5-year plan. Thanks to Chris Foley for participating. The next step will be Community Forums, probably in September, to receive additional input from Community stakeholders.
- The updated WLCSC website went live today. It includes a lot more information and is easier to navigate. It is also easier for teachers to create web pages for their classrooms.
- The annual Music Boosters Ice Cream Social & Summer Music Students Concerts will be Tuesday, June 25 from 6-9pm in the Jr High Gym at the High School. All are welcome to take a flyer about the event.

**Wabash River**

- Richard reported Mitch Daniels appointed someone from the University to sit on the WREC Committee.

**Other****Hiring of Morton Community Center Director**

Joe requested approval for the hire of Bess Mattern Witcosky as Morton Center Director, effective 06/24/13 at the biweekly pay of \$1,548.56. Aimee motioned to approve the hiring as presented. John seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

**Hiring for Maintenance Technician II**

Joe requested approval for the hire of Bradley Young as Parks & Recreation Maintenance Technician II, effective 06/28/13 at the biweekly pay of \$1,299.36. John motioned to approve the hiring as presented. Aimee seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

**Pay Claims**

Karen motioned for claims to be paid. Pat seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

**Adjourn**

John motioned to adjourn the meeting. Aimee seconded the motion, and the meeting adjourned at 5:09 pm.

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Presiding Officer

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Secretary